

**Semi Annual Report
For the Period
April 1, 2006 - September 30, 2006**

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I. Program Update

Current Fellows:

- **Darlene Foote** (USAID Cambodia)

IWID fellow Darlene Foote continues her productive work as the Gender, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist at USAID/Cambodia. In the past few months, she has had the opportunity to work with the technical teams on a variety of tasks. She provided input on integrating gender in an RFA, *Strengthening Capacity for Improved Community Health*, utilizing a guide she designed the year before for integrating gender into RFAs. Darlene also played a significant role in supplying information for a report on health sector funding. The translation into Khmer of the Gender Analysis and Assessment, which Darlene conceptualized in October of 2005, nears completion.

Darlene has also been busy preparing for the Mission's Annual Report and documenting the accompanying Data Quality Assessments (DQA). In preparation for the latter, Darlene has been working with the Mission technical teams and going into the field to interview program participants. One of her more engaging assessments was in Kampong Cham where she traveled with the SO11 team to do the DQA with the *Educational Support to Children in Underserved Populations (ESCUP)* activity. Because ESCUP specifically targets disadvantaged populations, it is important to monitor ethnicity as well as gender and disability issues. Managing the data to monitor the project's progress is a challenge, requiring a great deal of planning and data entry.

As Darlene prepares to wrap up in February, she will be turning her attention to supporting the Mission as the new Operational Plan is developed. An upcoming training in Bangkok will help Darlene and two other Program Office staff as they work with the technical teams to develop their Operational Plan.

- **Elisabeth Duban** (USAID Russia)

IWID fellow Elisabeth recently completed her first six months as the Gender, Youth and Conflict Prevention Specialist with USAID/Russia, and her assignment has been extended by 18 additional months. Among her most notable accomplishments during this period, Elisabeth participated in a technical evaluation committee, helping to ensure that gender issues receive proper attention and that youth are incorporated as much as possible into proposed activities.

Elisabeth also helped reinvigorate discussion on how programming could be used to better address gender-based violence. In May, Elisabeth attended the Legacy Conference for Civic Initiatives Program of the Institute of Sustainable Communities in Khabarovsk (the Russian Far East) on coordinating responses to domestic violence and trafficking. She gave a presentation on international norms and best practices and participated in working groups, enabling her to make contact with major NGOs and government officials working in this region of Russia. Elisabeth's report back to the Mission on this conference spurred discussion and led directly to the request for inclusion of the issue of domestic violence in two anti-trafficking proposals.

Most recently Elisabeth attended and presented at the Annual Conference of the Network Towards Unity for Health in Ghent, Belgium. The Network is an international association of individuals and organizations who have joined together to improve health in the communities they serve. The Network is very interested in expanding its membership to include practitioners from the CIS countries. Elisabeth's aim in attending was to gauge whether the Network can or should be promoted among Russian organizations, as well as to learn more about community-based approaches to improving women's health. An added benefit of her attendance was some productive networking. As a result of the conference, for example, she was contacted by the Russia country specialist for the Netherlands branch of Amnesty International who is interested in research on women's domestic violence issues, and discussions ensued about how such programs could be enhanced.

II. Program Development Update

Highlights from the past six months include:

- The process of selecting a Disability and Gender Specialist to assist USAID's Special Programs to Address the Needs of Survivors (SPANS) is complete. The new IWID fellow, who will be based at the Bureau of Democracy and Governance in USAD/W, will serve as a member of the SPANS rehabilitation and disability technical team. The fellow will have both world-wide geographic responsibility as well as considerable involvement with disability programming within the Bureau, including policy development, strategic analysis, program management and coordination, and outreach, liaison and service provision. We anticipate that the fellow's training will take place in October-November 2006 with a target assignment start-up of December 4, 2006.
- On September 30, IWID staff attended a quarterly meeting of the Office of Women in Development for IQC holders. Also attending were IWID alumni Nancy Rockel and Sahana Dharmapuri. The highlight of the meeting was a presentation given by Virginia Lambert of DevTech on the findings of a recent gender integration audit for USAID.
- IWID Newsletter: current and past editions of the newsletter are available on the IWID website at: www.iwid.org
- We are happy to report that the IWID website is now in full compliance with the latest USAID requirements. IIE will continue to update the website as needed, including advertising new positions as they become available and posting application deadlines.

III. Program Administration

With IIE Senior Program Coordinator Aimee Fullman's departure to a job opportunity in Canada this summer, IIE welcomes Program Officer Sue Rollins and Senior Program Coordinator Aaron Mitich to the IWID staff. Sue comes to IIE with many years of experience working on USAID-sponsored programs, and Aaron, a recent Master's degree graduate, brings years of work experience on community-based programs. Each will devote .5 FTE of their time to IWID support.